



NEW AMERICA
F O U N D A T I O N

October 20, 2011

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 Twelfth Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Via Electronic Filing

Re: Notice of Ex Parte Presentation in:
Standardized and Enhanced Disclosure Requirements for Television Broadcast
Licensee Public Interest Obligations, MB Dkt. 00-168
Examination of the Future of Media and Information Needs of Communities in a
Digital Age, GN Dkt 10-25

Dear Ms. Dortch,

Pursuant to section 1.1206(b) of the Commission's rules, New America Foundation, submits this notice regarding an *ex parte* communication in the above referenced dockets.

On October 18, 2011, Tom Glaisyer of the New America Foundation, met with Josh Cinelli, Media Advisor to Commissioner Michael Copps.

In the meeting, I expressed optimism regarding the broadcast disclosure item tentatively slated for the Commission's October 27th open meeting.¹ I laid out the lengthy history of the FCC's enhanced disclosure proceeding. That proceeding, which is over a decade old, has generated a thorough record supporting the public's need for better data on the amount of local news, government affairs, and electoral programming that broadcasters provide to local communities. I explained that the public has waited too long already for meaningful access to this information and that the disclosure item currently under consideration should not needlessly delay FCC adoption of such measures.

To that end, I described how the findings and goals laid out in the recent FCC staff report on the Information Needs of Communities,² coupled with the extensive record already generated in the existing enhanced disclosure docket, provide a strong basis for prompt replacement of broadcasters' existing issues/programs lists with improved program

¹ "FCC Announces Tentative Agenda for October Open Meeting," Public Notice (Oct. 6, 2011) available at http://transition.fcc.gov/Daily_Releases/Daily_Business/2011/db1006/DOC-310258A1.doc.

² *The Information Needs of Communities*, FCC Staff Report, GN Dkt 10-25 (June 9, 2011).

reporting obligations, as well as the online posting of broadcasters' public files, including their political files.

I further discussed the proposal of the Public Interest Public Airwaves Coalition's August 2011 proposal to modernize broadcaster reporting and public file.³ I emphasized the need for the FCC to explore and develop a disclosure database that could provide the public and researchers with searchable and downloadable access to standardized information on the types of programming broadcasters are airing to serve their local communities of license.

In accordance with the Commission's rules, this *ex parte* notice is being filed electronically in the above referenced dockets. If you have any questions regarding this filing please do not hesitate to contact me.

Respectfully submitted,

_____/s/____

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Cc:
Joshua Cinelli

³*Letter to Chairman Julius Genachowski from the Public Interest Public Airwaves Coalition*, MM Dkt 00-168, GN Dkt 10-25, (filed Aug. 4, 2011), available at <http://fjallfoss.fcc.gov/ecfs/document/view?id=7021700424>; see also <http://www.savethenews.org/sample-form> for a demonstration of the proposed online form